



1 February 2007

**Presidents' Day and Lunar New Year 2007  
Safety and Command Discipline Message**

1. USFK will observe a four-day holiday weekend from 17-20 February 2007 in recognition of two holidays - Presidents' Day and the Republic of Korea (ROK) Lunar New Year "Sol-Lal." Our Presidents' Day celebrates the service and achievements of all the Presidents of the United States, most notably George Washington and Abraham Lincoln who were both born during the month of February. The ROK Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays celebrated in Korea. It is highlighted by family gatherings where people reaffirm familial ties and pay tribute to their elders.
2. Thus far, we have begun 2007 with a very good safety record; however, I am seeing a statistical increase in Servicemember misconduct, particularly involving under age drinking, alcohol abuse, curfew violation, and sexual assault. This type of behavior is unacceptable and our chain of command must be directly engaged to ensure our Servicemembers understand the potential lifelong negative consequences of this type of indiscipline. As always, our chain of command is responsible and accountable 24/7 for the conduct of our force. We must continue to highlight safe and appropriate behavior in order to avoid misconduct and tragedy during the upcoming four-day weekend. To mitigate risks during this period, read my safety guidance in [USFK Command Policy Letter #2, Command Safety](#). Senior leaders must ensure that first-line leaders conduct "Under the Oak Tree Counseling" and gain a verbal behavior contract with their subordinates. I expect leaders to make every effort to ensure their personnel behave responsibly at all times. We are all ambassadors for the United States and our actions must reflect the best of America.
3. Our goal remains "No Loss of Life" at any time. Furthermore, we will reduce the incidents of major indiscipline in our ranks. Your personal involvement and the chain of command's concern for and engagement with our Servicemembers, civilian employees, family members, and contractors will make a positive difference. Our combined involvement will continue to save lives and ensure a healthy, proper and productive climate – on and off duty.
4. We go together!

B. B. BELL  
General, US Army  
Commander

**FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!**

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